

Quality Improvement Committees Quarterly Meeting

July 16, 2008

In Attendance

Name	Region/Office
Bert Peterson	Western
Beverly Hart	Western
Boni Seals	Eastern/Carbon & Emery Counties
Bruce Zylks	Southwest/Richfield
Carol Baumann	Northern
Carol Miller	State Office
Chantel Markel	Chair, Southwest/Washington
Chris Chytraus	Chair, Salt Lake Valley
Destry Maycock	Southwest/Cedar City
Katy Larsen	State Office
Navina Forsythe	State Office data unit
Robert Johnson	Southwest/Washington
Phyllis Lee (by phone)	Eastern
Susan Eisenman	Assistant Attorney General

Welcome

Introductions were made. Katy let everyone know that she has a new position with Child and Family Services. She will be hiring someone to replace her in the Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) position, and she will supervise that person.

Exit Agreement

QICs were reminded that the Child Welfare Policy & Practice Group will be visiting with every QIC during the summer as part of the exit agreement. A handout was presented with the proposed schedule of visits. Please send agendas and notice of those upcoming meetings to George Taylor at sharedgoal@aol.com. Notify Carol Miller of any changes in your proposed meeting schedule (especially Friday meetings that have to be changed). This is a great opportunity to show how well the QICs are working.

Data Analysis

Navina presented a tool for QICs to use to help narrow data needs. Regional QICs can still use their regional data person for data, but may also contact Navina if they need to.

Navina gave copies of a report that was presented to the State QIC about placement stability. The Data Unit spent time with the State QIC and asked specific questions about what they were seeing in order to help know what data to present. This report was compiled after the Data Unit gained a better understanding of what the QIC was looking for. The Regional QICs will also review this report to see how their region is performing on placement stability. The group reviewed the report to gain an understanding of what the report was showing, and how, by narrowing the query ahead of time, the Data Unit was better able to respond and to answer the questions posed by the State QIC.

QIC Expense Report

Katy will email the expense reports to the QICs. This is grant money that we utilize, so it is important to post it to the correct codes. Katy has a handout that clarifies what the monies can be used for. Katy will work with Cosette Mills and regional budget personnel to see what has been spent and how much will be allocated for next year. Katy will email this information to chairs of the QICs. The annual summit (which will be held on November 25, 2008 in Salt Lake City) will have a separate budget.

Immersion

Jack Green is working toward setting an immersion budget for regional immersion experiences. Bruce said that his region would like to schedule an immersion, so he will work with Katy to see about the availability of Lisa-Michele Church and Duane Betournay for their attendance. A panel of client presenters is very effective for these immersions.

Fetal Exposure Training

One of the Child and Family Services priority focus areas is substance abuse. The State QIC looked into this issue and created a fetal exposure training for the state. This training was delivered in Price, which was received well. Katy and Dr. Karen Buchi (State QIC) will be delivering this training in all regions. This is intended for multi-disciplinary community partners. They would like to complete this training by the end of September 2008.

Regional Updates

- Eastern/Emery County – Working on placement stability. They are looking at what percentage of disruptions are kin caregivers and the ages of children. These disruptions have spiked. They have also looked at CPS overdues, repeat maltreatment, and prevention efforts. They will pick a new focus area at an upcoming meeting. They held a recognition dinner for Child and Family Services employees that was very well attended and appreciated.
- Salt Lake Valley – A subcommittee is meeting with regional staff regarding placement matching to prevent placement disruptions. They have looked at what services are available in Tooele. They are prioritizing what they will be looking at over the next year.
- Northern – They are planning an immersion day and Story of Hope Day in October. The Regional QIC is looking at permanency issues with kin. They will be changing their regular meeting day from Friday to another day of the week, after the August meeting.
- Southwest/Washington – Child and Family Services is doing a pilot project on Transition to Adult Living, which the Regional QIC has looked at so they can submit a request for a peer parenting/mentor program for youth who have a child in care.
- Southwest/Cedar City – They are in the process of replacing their chair, who recently moved out of state. They held an immersion, which was very well received. The Regional QIC recommended that they hold the immersions on an annual basis. They had an article in the local newspaper highlighting foster parents. A meth conference will be held in September in Cedar City, and special invitations are being sent to kin families and community partners. They have submitted a building block proposal for a supervised visitation program. Destry will contact David Florence to see if there are any grant monies available for this type of program. Regional QIC members have been raising donations from local businesses for foster parents. They are also following up on CPS overdues.
- Southwest/Richfield – Due to recommendations from the Regional QIC, they now have a part-time employee at the Utah Foster Care Foundation to focus on foster parent recruitment and retention in this part of the region. They are now focusing on drug issues, awareness, and prevention. In April, there was a community event in Richfield. The theme was substance abuse prevention. The event lasted for two days and had over 2,000 attendees from the community. The Regional QIC would like to hold one of these on an annual basis. They received preliminary CPR results from OSR. Recruitment and retention of foster homes has been a focus area. Three Regional QIC members participated on the regional QCR in May. They are looking at having Regional QIC members participate on the CPR. At the last meeting, they began to plan a way to become involved with individual cases that appear to be lingering. (Katy will seek approval from the State Admin. Team to see if they can proceed with this).

- Western – Their chair recently resigned, but will participate on the committee when he can. They have assigned a new chair. They are planning their next immersion. They will look at what they will focus on during the next year. The recommendations that the Regional QIC made around licensing issues have been constructive.

Other Issues

- It was suggested that the information from OSR be presented by Brad McGarry at the annual summit instead of at separate committee meetings. Katy will talk with Brad about this and let the committees know.
- You can contact Donna Russell at the Executive Director's Office (asinger@utah.gov) if you want help engaging tribal members to attend immersions.
- Each committee may want to look at the issues related to client drug testing (i.e., costs, purpose, etc.).
- Phyllis would like a list of quarterly meeting attendees and their phone numbers.
- Navina will email the handouts to Phyllis.
- Katy will send information about QIC budgets to all committees.
- Quarterly reports are due to Carol Miller within the next few days.

Next Quarterly Meeting

The next quarterly QIC meeting will be held on October 8, 2008, from 10am to noon in Spanish Fork.